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# GovBenefits

helps you find government benefits

Searching for a Specific  
Benefits Program?



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**GovBenefits**  
*A partnership of Federal  
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## About GovBenefits

### Are there government benefit programs available to help you?

GovBenefits will help you answer that question. Our online screening tool is free, and completely confidential. We do not require your name, phone number, Social Security number, or any other information that could be used to identify you. You answer a series of questions about yourself, and then GovBenefits returns a list of government programs you may be eligible to receive along with information about how you can apply.

Whether it's a direct payment, a loan, insurance, training, or other services - the GovBenefits system finds the government benefit programs available to help you.

To get started, simply return to the [Home](#) page and select all categories that apply to you (or the person you are helping). Then, choose the type of program list you want to see and follow the Continue link.

## The GovBenefits Partnership

GovBenefits is a partnership of many Federal agencies and organizations with a shared vision - *to provide improved, personalized access to government assistance programs*.

While the GovBenefits system currently provides screening for only a subset of programs administered by our partners, we are expanding this list of programs on a regular basis with the goal of eventually providing information for all government assistance programs.

We would like to recognize the following partners for their contributions to GovBenefits:

### Agency Partners

- [Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation](#)
- [Department of Agriculture](#)
- [Department of Education](#)
- [Department of Energy](#)
- [Department of Health and Human Services](#)
- [Department of Housing and Urban Development](#)
- [Department of Justice](#)
- [Department of Labor](#)
- [Department of State](#)
- [Department of Veterans Affairs](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#)
- [Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation](#)
- [Railroad Retirement Board](#)
- [Social Security Administration](#)

### GovBenefit Partners

4 p
31 p
23 p
1 p
34 p
26 p
2 p
17 p
5 p
42 p
3 p
1 p
1 p
10 p
<b>Total</b>
<b>200 p</b>

### Other Partners

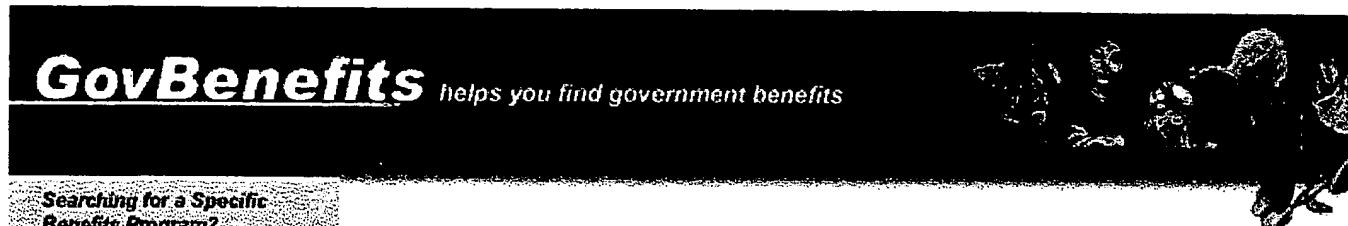
### Contributors

- [FirstGov](#)
- [The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance \(CFDA\)](#)

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## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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### What is GovBenefits?

GovBenefits is a screening tool to help you find government benefits that you may be eligible to receive.

GovBenefits does NOT offer application services for benefits and cannot guarantee that you will be eligible for specific programs. In addition, GovBenefits is not designed to be a comprehensive listing of all assistance programs for which someone is eligible. Its purpose is to give you information about the benefits you MAY be eligible to receive and then to provide information about those programs.

### What benefits will GovBenefits screen for?

Currently GovBenefits offers information on a limited set of benefit programs available through a variety of Federal agencies. This list of included programs will be expanding over time as we make a concerted effort to provide you with the complete picture of what government benefits you may be eligible to receive.

### How much time will it take to answer all the questions?

Depending on your personal situation, please allow 5 to 15 minutes to answer all the questions. The more benefits you may be eligible to receive, the more questions will be asked.

### What types of questions will GovBenefits ask?

GovBenefits will ask several broad questions about your personal situation. These questions will become more specific as the system narrows the list of possible benefit programs for which you may be eligible to receive. GovBenefits is completely confidential and will NOT collect any information that could be used to identify you (i.e., name, address, phone number, Social Security number, etc.)

### Do I have to answer all the questions?

GovBenefits recommends that you answer all of the questions presented. Answering all the questions increases the accuracy of the assessment of your eligibility for government assistance.

#### **What if I am looking for a specific benefit program?**

If you would like to learn more about a specific benefit program, the easiest way to get information is to use the search tool on the left frame. Simply enter the benefit or keyword(s), and the system will return a list of all the GovBenefits programs that match your search criteria. The search tool does not address whether you might be eligible to receive benefit programs - to find a list of programs that you may be eligible to receive, you must complete the GovBenefits screening process that begins on the Home page.

#### **Where can I go to get more information on benefits?**

Useful web sites providing additional information can be found in Other Resources. Many states' web sites include information on state and local benefit programs. Also, BenefitsCheckUp, a free, confidential service for people 55 and older, tells people about federal, state and other benefits for which they qualify as well as where and how to apply for them.

#### **What if I am helping someone else?**

If you are answering these questions on behalf of someone else (including a child or "you" applies to that person). Answer the questions as they apply to the person being helped.

#### **What if I want to apply for a benefit program?**

You cannot apply for a specific benefit program directly through GovBenefits. Instead, contact information provided for each program to determine the appropriate next steps.

#### **How often should I use GovBenefits?**

GovBenefits is free, so try it as often as you like. We recommend that you visit the site at least once a year, or more frequently if time passes or after major life events. New benefit program eligibility criteria, existing benefit programs, and/or your own life changes might result in your potential eligibility for benefit programs that you might otherwise have missed.

#### **How does the search work?**

The search function finds benefit programs based on the words or phrases you enter in the search text box. There are three methods for searching the GovBenefits web site:

- To find a program using a phrase, enter the phrase in quotes:  
**"Mortgage Insurance"**

This will return all benefit programs containing the phrase "Mortgage Insurance" either in the title or the description.

- To find a program containing two or more specified words, enter each word preceded by a plus:

**+Home +Insurance**

This will return all programs containing both the words "home" and "insurance" either in the title or the description.

- To find a program containing any one of a number of words, enter each space between each:

**Hom Flood**

This will return all programs containing either the word "home" or "flood" title or the description.

Phrases and words can be combined, for example: "**Flood Insurance**" +**Home**. Combining ands (+) and ors (no sign) is not supported and unanticipated results.

### What Federal agencies are participating in GovBenefits?

GovBenefits is a partnership of many Federal agencies and organizations with vision - *to provide improved, personalized access to government assistance programs*. The following government agencies are currently participating:

Agency Partners	GovBen fit
■ <a href="#">Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation</a>	4 p
■ <a href="#">Department of Agriculture</a>	31 p
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■ <a href="#">Federal Emergency Management Agency</a>	3 p
■ <a href="#">Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation</a>	1 p
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